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1G NOTES

25 September 1987

INFORMAL WORKING NOTES--"STAMPS"

Interviews with [ ] et al.

1. Before interviewing five of the principals in the case, I contacted OGC [ ]

2. Also before the interviews, I called [ ] without identifying myself, and said, "I read in Time Magazine that you have one of the Rush Lamp invert stamps. Can I see it?" He replied, "It's gone, I sold it." By that I confirmed the Time and UPI reports that he said he had a stamp and his identity and location.

3. On 24 September 1987, I interviewed [ ] and [ ] singly, in Room [ ] Building. I explained to each that the Inspector General had assumed responsibility for the official Agency investigation of the case and that my job was (a) to assure the Inspector General that the investigation of the case by the Office of Security had been complete and proper, (b) to complete the investigation, if necessary, and (c) to recommend to the Inspector General what additional administrative action the Agency should take in the case, if any. I invited each of them to ask any questions or make any statements that they might want to make to me, as an impartial outside investigator, that they might not have wanted to make to previous investigators and questioners.

4. Each of them asked what the issue was, and I replied to each of them that the issues as I currently understand them are:

- ° Were any laws broken when they sold the stamps or took possession of the stamps that they retained? Did those acts constitute conversion of government property for profit? Their individual opinions or opinions that have been expressed by their [ ] managers

are only opinions, but the Office of the General Counsel is cooperating with the Department of Justice in determining what laws, if any, were broken.

- ° Were any laws broken by those who lied or failed to reveal the whole truth when they said that the unsold stamps were used as postage? (because it is a crime to lie to an official government investigator.)

5. I told [ ] who I interviewed first, that [ ] could pass any of this information along to any of the others so they would know what was happening.

6. At this point, [ ] asked if it were a crime for an investigator to lie? I asked [ ] to explain. [ ] said that the investigator for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Mr. Oglesby, had threatened both [ ] and [ ] by saying that if they did not tell him where they worked, he would take them to court. When [ ] told [ ] that, [ ] decided to step in: [ ] called Mr. Oglesby and eventually did tell him where they worked. I asked [ ] how Mr. Oglesby had lied? [ ] had related the incident to [ ] (OS investigator), who said that Mr. Oglesby could not have taken them to court.

7. Questions to [ ] were designed to pursue the issues of how many stamps were replaced and when they were replaced.

Question: Who bought the replacement stamps?

Answer: [ ]

Q.: How many did he buy?

A.: I think it was 100.

Q.: How much money did you give him to buy the replacement stamps?

A.: One hundred dollars.

Q.: So how many did you replace?

A.: I put 95 in the drawer.

Q.: What did you do with the other five?

A.: I kept them.

Q.: Where did the funds come from for the purchase?

A.: From my own funds. (I often use my own funds to buy stamps when we need them in a hurry and when getting an advance from B&F would take too long.) Then the others reimbursed me, except [ ] and [ ] who did not pay because they used their annual leave to go to New Jersey.

Q.: Exactly when did [ ] buy the replacements?  
A.: Probably Monday or Tuesday of the week following the discovery of the possible misprint; before [ ] and [ ] went to the Annandale stamp dealer. We replaced the stamps before we knew they were valuable.

Q.: Did the other seven of you share equally the cost of the 95 replacement stamps?  
A.: I believe so.

Q.: Did you get a receipt from the post office when you bought the replacement stamps? Do you have it?  
A.: I did not keep it. What would I need it for?

Q.: At what post office were the replacement stamps bought?  
A.: I don't know; usually we bought them at the Dunn Loring post office.

Q.: At what time of day did [ ] buy the replacement stamps?  
A.: I don't know.

Q.: Was it during the day or after working hours?  
A.: It was probably in the morning. He wouldn't have gone after hours.

Q.: Is there anything else you would like to say?  
A.: I just can't believe how this thing has mushroomed. It has gotten all out of proportion. We haven't done anything wrong. (At this point [ ]

6. Questions to [ ] were designed to establish whether or not any of [ ] activities in disposing of the invert stamps were done on government time and to check [ ] answers. At the outset, [ ] stated that [ ] had retained an attorney. [ ] was willing to answer any questions, but that [ ] attorney wanted to know what questions were asked. At the end of the interview, [ ] asked if I were under cover (I replied in the negative); apparently [ ] intends to tell him my name, as he apparently requested.

Q.: Exactly when did you go to the Annandale stamp dealer?  
A.: The same day we discovered the possible misprint, after work.

Q.: When was this in relation to the day you called [ ] in to look at the stamps?  
A.: The same day.

Q.: And what day did [ ] buy the replacement stamps?  
A.: The same day.

Q.: What day did you and [ ] travel to New Jersey?

A.: The next day or the day after that; April first or second.

Q.: At what time of day did [ ] buy the replacement stamps? During the day, or after hours?

A.: During the day; during working hours.

Q.: Do you know how many stamps were replaced?

A.: Ninety-five.

Q.: Who contributed to the cost of the replacement stamps?

A.: As far as I know, all except [ ] and myself, because we used our annual leave to go to New Jersey.

7. [ ] asked that any future contact be made through [ ] because none of the people where [ ] now works knows of [ ] involvement in this situation. It is normal for [ ] and [ ] to contact each other several times a day on work-related matters.

8. [ ] stated at the outset that he believes he had the right to sell the stamps after they had been replaced. He said this incident has been blown out of proportion. He is bothered by the way OS has handled it: someone in OS told him the stamps did and do belong to the US government. He does not believe that and welcomed my statement that DOJ was making that determination.

Q.: When exactly did you go to Annandale?

A.: Early in the week. Maybe Wednesday. Or Thursday. After work.

Q.: Can you give me the name of the Annandale dealer?

A.: I have his card. [ ]

Q.: When exactly did you go to New Jersey?

A.: The following Monday. I'm almost sure.

Q.: You have said that you gave the stamp to your father. As far as you know, does he have it?

A.: Yes, I'm almost sure he hasn't sold it.

9. [ ] reaction to my outlining the issues was to say that he was not lying when he said the unsold stamps were used as postage; he still does not know that some of them were not. When [ ] interviewed him, he thought it was a briefing on how to respond in case the press got his name and contacted him. It did not seem like a real investigation where he was required to answer an investigator's questions fully. He said there was no criminal intent on his

part. Questions directed to [ ] pursued the issue of his claim to have lost the stamp.

Q.: I have a copy of your signed statement that you lost the stamp you kept. Do you still claim you lost it?

A.: Yes.

Q.: Do you recognize the name [ ]?

A.: No.

Q.: [ ] has told the press that he bought one of the stamps from a CIA man. You don't know him?

A.: No.

10. Questions to [ ] (by telephone):

Q.: How much money did [ ] give you to buy the replacement stamps?

A.: Ninety-five dollars.

Q.: How many replacement stamps did you buy?

A.: Ninety-five.

Q.: What day did you buy the replacement stamps in relation to the day the misprint was noticed?

A.: The same day.

Q.: At approximately what time of day did you buy the replacement stamps?

A.: Between 10 and 2. It might have been during my lunch hour.

Q.: Five of you have not turned in the stamps you kept. Do you know if any of the stamps retained by any of you have been sold.?

A.: No, I do not know of any stamp sale by any of the five.

Q.: Do you know the name [ ]?

A.: Yes.

Q.: In what connection?

A.: He was on television.

Q.: What did he do on television?

A.: He was talking about the misprinted stamps.

Q.: What did he say about them?

A.: I don't know. I didn't see the program.

Q.: Then how did you know about it?

A.: [ ] told me about it. [ ] voice seemed to crack in the middle of this sentence.)

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11. Time and attendance records acquired from [redacted]  
[redacted] Office of Finance, show that on 2 April 1986 [redacted]  
[redacted] signed for 6 hours annual leave and [redacted]  
signed for 4 hours annual leave. Testimony taken by the Bureau  
of Engraving and Printing investigator supports the conclusion  
that [redacted] and [redacted] travelled to New Jersey on 2  
April 1986.

[redacted]

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SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
23	MARCH 24	25	26	27 INITIAL STAMP PURCHASE	28	29
30	31 NOTICED MISPRINTS. CONSULTED. BOUGHT REPLACEMENTS. AND TO ANNANDALE.	APRIL 1	2 AND TO NEW JERSEY. 6 HRS AL 4 HRS AL	3	4	5